

Changes to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 25, and ending on page 5, line 25 with the following amended paragraph:

As shown in Figure 1, the remote sensing system 10 of the present invention includes a fixed unit 12 to monitor the audio present in a particular area, such as a meeting room 14. The term "fixed" refers to the fact that the unit 12 is not carried by an individual to be monitored, but is substantially stationary in the premises to be monitored. It can be portable or movable in the sense that it can be positioned as appropriate in the premises or can be able to be moved to another premises or location, as desired. Typically, the monitored audio exists as the result of the reception and play of an audio broadcast, such as part of a television transmission received by a receiver in the monitored area, or as the audio of a radio broadcast received by a radio receiver in the area, either of which will contain audio desired to be tracked, as well as other ambient sounds, including conversations, random noise, and the like. The fixed unit includes processing circuitry 18 that analyzes the audio received by microphone 16, and determines whether it includes an audio signal of interest, i.e., whether it includes audio corresponding to a broadcast, the presence of which is to be monitored. A microprocessor 20 may control the processing and analysis circuitry, which may analyze the broadcast for encoded identification data, compare the audio to set parameters, or otherwise determine the identity of the broadcast, in a manner ~~known in~~ known in the art. If the processing circuitry identifies the audio as of interest, it extracts the identifying indicia or otherwise identifies the broadcast and creates a reception record. While the microphone 16 may be an integral part of the fixed unit 12, other or additional microphones 16' may be placed at other locations within the monitored area to further insure that all audio present in the monitored area is perceived and processed by the fixed unit. Alternatively, the type and positioning of the microphones may be such that only particular portions of a larger area are monitored, or that the sensitivity of the microphones to audio in different parts of the monitored area differ. Both omni and unidirectional microphones, for example, ~~maybe~~ may be employed. In addition, either microphones or processing circuitry having specific response characteristics may be employed to tailor the audio reception characteristics as may be appropriate. The remote microphones ~~18'~~ 16' may be hard wired or otherwise coupled to the processing circuitry.

Please replace the paragraph on page 6, lines 7-16 with the following amended paragraph:

Each of the transponders 22 is a portable unit capable of being worn or carried by an audience member 24. The transponder may transmit a relatively short-range radio signal on a continuous or quasi-continuous basis. The radio signal comprises ~~[[a]]~~ an identifier identifying the transponder and thus the identity of the individual audience member with which it is associated. Preferably, the identification signal is broadcast on a periodic, rather than continuous, basis to conserve battery power. Broadcast timing may be on a ~~pseudo-random~~ pseudo-random basis, or may be spread across a range of frequencies, as known in the art, to minimize the risk of signal overlap and collision when a plurality of transponders are in the same locale. The transponder may also be activated by polling signals sent by the fixed unit. In such a case, it may be possible for the transponder to be powered by the received polling signal and thus be battery free.